

# SOCIETY OF BROADCAST ENGINEERS Chapter 122 March 2026 NEWSLETTER

**REMEMBER SBE 122 has NO official meeting in July, August or December**

**Join us at our next regular meeting at noon **March 12, 2026****

**Three days before "BUZZARD DAY" in Hinkley, Ohio**



**850 E Western Reserve Rd #8, Youngstown, OH 44514 (330) 758-0544.**

**We're usually on the right, along the wall**

**(680 at Western Reserve, then west about 1000 feet)**

**Reminder: SBE CH 122 has 9 meetings a year.**

**We have NO official meetings in July-August and December.**

## **SBE Chapter 122 Meeting Minutes 2/12/26**

- Date 2/12/26
- Start 1:08 PM
- End 1:18 PM
- Number of Attendees: 6, SBE Certified:1 Guest: 1
- Presiding Officer: Bob Flis, President
- Motion to accept minutes from last meeting; Melissa Limpose, Wes Boyd seconds
- Treasurer Report: Mike Orto not present
- EAS Report: John Clarke, Reminder that March is Severe Weather Awareness Month
- Frequency Report < 1 GHz: Wes Boyd, nothing to report.
- Frequency Report > 1 GHz: Bob Flis: New Low Power TV application for Hermitage, PA
- Certification: nothing to report.
- Old Business: None
- New Business: None
- Program Speaker: None
- Motion to Adjourn: Wes Boyd Seconded: Ben Slagle

# EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM

## The State of Ohio 2026 RMT Schedule PN Stations Reference Guide

MONTH	DATE	TIME	SOURCE(S)
March	<u>3/18/26*</u>	9:50am	CAP + SP-1 <i>(Annual STATE WIDE Test)</i>

**\*Custom script and date, in conjunction with Severe Weather Awareness Week, covering the RMT requirement for all stations in Ohio in March. If NOAA cancels their test due to potentially severe weather in the state, we will reschedule the RMT for the next day, 3/19/26 at 9:50am, regardless of a NOAA Awareness Week test reschedule.**

April	4/08/26	3:50am	CAP + SP-1
May	5/13/26	9:50am	CAP + SP-2
June	6/10/26	3:50am	SP-2
July	7/08/26	9:50am	CAP + SP-1
August	8/12/26	3:50am	CAP + SP-1
September	9/09/26	9:50am	CAP + SP-2
October	10/14/26	3:50am	SP-1
November	11/11/26	9:50am	CAP + SP-1
December	12/09/26	3:50am	CAP + SP-2

**Required Monthly Tests originate from the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) in Columbus at :48 past the hour to ensure delivery by :50 past the hour.**

WNCI is the State Primary station (SP-1) [gregsavoldi@iheartmedia.com](mailto:gregsavoldi@iheartmedia.com)

WBNS-FM is the Alternate SP station (SP-2) [greg.armstrong@tegn.com](mailto:greg.armstrong@tegn.com)

The SEOC originates RMTs through a combination of CAP via IPAWS and OEAS fiber via OET embedded digital stream, and firewalled G-Net audio codecs to LP stations with legacy Over-The-Air transmission to the 12 Operational Areas across the state. WNCI and WBNS-FM are the lead stations for OTA distribution to all Radio, TV, and Cable operators...statewide.

### 2026 PENNSYLVANIA EAS NETWORK REQUIRED MONTHLY TEST DATES

MONTH	DAY	TIME
MARCH	19 THU	9:15 A.M. DAY, EMnet
APRIL	16 THU	12:35 A.M. NIGHT, EMnet
MAY	21 THU	10:05 A.M. DAY, EMnet
JUNE	18 THU	4:30 A.M. NIGHT, EMnet
MONTH	DAY	TIME

JULY 16 THU 10:15 A.M. DAY, EMnet  
AUGUST 20 THU 12:45 A.M. NIGHT, EMnet  
SEPTEMBER 17 THU 10:30 A.M. DAY, EMnet  
OCTOBER 15 THU 4:40 A.M. NIGHT, EMnet  
NOVEMBER 19 THU 10:45 A.M. DAY, EMnet  
DECEMBER 17 THU 4:45 A.M. NIGHT, EMnet

**Matt Lightner PA EAS SECC**

1771 Beaver Dam Road Claysburg, PA 16625 814-239-8323

[Matt@LightnerElectronics.com](mailto:Matt@LightnerElectronics.com)



## **Broadcasters' Desktop Resource**

by Barry Mishkind

**The BDR Is Celebrating Our 16 th Year Of Dedicated Support For Broadcasters**

**As always, many great articles to read**

- [My Experiences with Power Grid Tubes and Rebuilders](#)
- [Making Customer Service Even Better At Nautel](#)

### [Coping with Vegetation That is Trying to Take Over](#)

Written by [Barry Mishkind](#) (Someone at WFUN 970 should read this !)

2/18/26 – Operate from the wrong place – lose the license. In recent years, the FCC has deleted the licenses of several stations that had been off the air for over one year. The situation for [DKVSJ, Stockton, CA](#) was a bit different, but the result was the same. When an STA and a CP ran out, the station, which had been off for some time, resumed broadcasting from a previous site, which was no longer authorized. The FCC says being in the wrong place is the same as being off the air.

2/17/26 – The FCC has been working this year to resolve a number of stations that have not been paying their regulatory fees. Two groups were targeted this last week – they must either pay up, or the licenses could be revoked.

**Core Communicators North LLC and Core Communicators South LLC — licensees of [WIPK-FM](#) Calhoun, GA and [WMRG-FM](#) Morgan, GA** — have accumulated over \$28,000 in past due fees, from as far back as 2015.

### **Sovereign Communications, LLC**

Licensee of **WKNW(AM), Sault Sainte Marie, MI; WNB(AM), Newberry, MI; WSUE(FM), Sault Sainte Marie, MI; WYSS(FM), Sault Sainte Marie, MI; WNB-FM, Newberry, MI; WMKD(FM), Pickford, MI and WSOO(AM), Sault Sainte Marie, MI.**

Together, these stations have failed to pay over \$37,000 in regulatory fees – although there appears to be some funds that may apply to the balance.

The FCC requires the stations respond and pay up or the licenses may be deleted.

2/8/26 – The FCC has made it clear that it is serious about EAS violations. An [NALF penalty of \\$369,190](#) was assessed against KCWX (TV), Corridor Television LLP in Fredrickburg, TX. Specifically, the FCC found the licensee liable for several violations, including (1) failure to transmit the Nationwide EAS Test (NPT) over a three-year period; (2) failure to file the required EAS Test Reporting System (ETRS) forms; and (3) misrepresentation in the ETRS filings they did file.

The station’s excuses were not persuasive to the FCC, hence the NALF.

### **1/21/26 – ON THE OTHER HAND**

Stations that do not pay attention to complying with the Rules may receive a visit from the FCC, and the results can be unfortunate, resulting in an [NOV, like this one](#) issued to **WSDS, Vasquez Broadcast Corp in Salem Township, MI**. According to the Field Agents, the station was given 20 days to respond and correct violations, including:

An unlocked gate at an AM tower.

**(locally 1330 AM has a “locked gate” BUT no fence)**

The tower paint and obstruction lighting was not in Compliance with the Station Authorization.

There was no Station Log nor evidence the Chief Operator had verified operations in compliance.

The EAS log in the stations Codec were dated 1997.

the stations was running at 24.8% of license power daytime and 39% of nighttime power.

No equipment performance measurements were available.

Field strength measurements were not done as required and logged.

2/18/26 – You can expect an NCE FM translator window – the first ever – to open late this year. Some stations are already checking to see what can be found in their area. While the FCC has not yet finalized the rules for the window nor set a date, it has plans to limit mass filings by limiting applications to 10 per entity, fewer for LPFMs. In a [Public Notice](#), the Commission is seeking to “prevent gamesmanship and ensure fair access to licenses,” while being about to efficiently issue thousands of CPs.

2/17/26 -The C-Band fight continues: As readers delve into the comments made to the FCC, which is wrestling with the mandate from Congress to auction off at least 100 MHz of what is left of the C-Band, we find quite a wide variety of positions. The NAB has consistently warned that trying to take more than 100 MHz from the frequencies broadcasters use would be highly disruptive. On the other size, all the major US cellular companies are pushing hard to get that last 80 MHz – they want the whole C-Band.

2/9/26 – Late last month the FCC, long known for its “one size fits all” approach to regulation, issued [a Public Notice](#) that the failure to keep all FRN information – including that for individual board members – up to date could draw a \$1000/day fine. Several law firms – and some media – issued reports expressing surprise about the scope of the Public Notice, and warned stations to ensure their information was up-to-date. Predictably, the FCC servers promptly crashed under the load.

While the Public Notice was a sort of reminder that stations must keep their LMS data up-to-date, so the FCC can make contact as they require, the Public Notice in January was specifically meant to deal with the *Robocall Mitigation Database (RMD) Report and Order*, adding a forfeiture to Section 1.80 of the Commission’s Rules. [A follow-up Public Notice](#) did clarify that the reporting: “*These forfeiture changes only apply to violations related to filings in the RMD.*” And it concluded: “The Robocall Mitigation Database Report and Order did not address or change any forfeiture amounts that may be associated with failures to update the CORES information by non-RMD filers. “

## Contacting the FAA:

The number to call for reporting tower beacon and side-light outages: 1-877-487-6867 (Be sure to get the NOTAM number and call and report when the lights are restored!)

Want to check to make sure your NOTAM got into the system?

Check out: <https://notams.aim.faa.gov/notamSearch/>

## The Virtual Lunch Gathering!

**Each Thursday at 2 PM Eastern, 11 AM Pacific,  
we get together to discuss topics of interest to broadcasters, and learn things.**

**The meeting is held using Zoom to prevent Zoombombing the URL is not published on the web.**

## **Broadcasters Are Invited, (Go to Barry's site) To Get An Invite.**

Recordings of the meetings are usually posted a day or so afterward.

At this time, they are being posted at Youtube on [theBDRnet channel](#).

(So you can leave the local SBE 122 meeting, and then check into Barry's meeting for the latest info.)

Thanks to Barry and the BDR, a great source for the latest news of the industry.

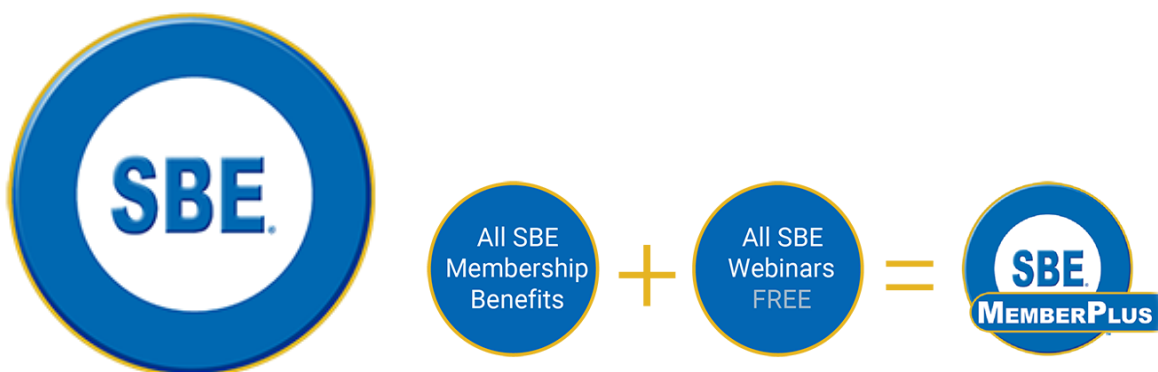
A weekly e-mail report.. and it's FREE

We still have, as do many locations across the US, AM stations having technical / off air problems while still using the FM translators to continue to operate and generate \$\$\$.

WKTX 830 Cortland returned to the air late FEB.. Starting broadcasting at sunrise and shutting off at sundown.. all with NO audio .. LOL

Notes of interest (to ME anyhow).. WYWO is the new call for 1570 Warren, Oh

Some low power TV moves.. One from Erie down to Slippery Rock (Ch 35) and another moving from the Akron area to Keel Ridge in Hermitage/ Sharon.



**[WWW.SBE.ORG](http://WWW.SBE.ORG)**

Get notifications and information from the SBE about **SBE** Webinars

[Cooling Your Transmitter Site](#)

[2026 RF Safety Course](#)

[Technical Proof of Performance: What Remains Required and What Data Makes Sense to Routinely Collect](#)

[Building the Broadcast IP Content Network: Part 4 – Architecture and Integration](#)

The Society of Broadcast Engineers has released new **Broadcast Station Self-Inspection Guides** for AM, FM, TV and LPFM broadcast stations. The SBE partnered with the National Association of Broadcasters to produce the documents, which are the first part of a planned series to cover all broadcast services. These Guides are designed to aid stations and Alternative Broadcast Inspection Program (ABIP) inspectors in evaluating a broadcast station's compliance with FCC rules and regulations.

Great article on maintaining station logs in the February SIGNAL (page 10)

## **It's time to renew your SBE membership !!**

**And the annual drive for new members has started !**



NAB Show: April 18-22, 2026

SBE Ennes Workshop @ the NAB Show: April 21-22

*Las Vegas, Nevada*

[Register for the NAB Show](#)

(SBE members: Use the SBE code **SBENAB26** for a free exhibits-only pass or \$150 off the NAB non-member rate for full conference registration.)



## **SBE 122**

## **Officers and Committees**

President:	Robert Flis	Retired: Ex WFMJ TV CE (leave a message, maybe I'll call)
Vice President:	Wes Boyd	Retired/ Semi Homeless, and happy ! (leave a message, but I won't call !)
Treasurer:	Mike Orto	WYSU / Youngstown State Univ.
Secretary	John Clarke	iHeart Media Youngstown
Financial Manager	Melissa Rogers	WYSU 88.5 FM Youngstown State Univ.
Certification	Wes Boyd	
Frequency Co-ordination:		
1 Ghz and UP	Robert Flis	
Under 1 Ghz	Wes Boyd	
Newsletter:	Wes Boyd	

**In case you haven't heard.. Canada is ending it's version of "Weather Radio"  
(We suggest a inexpensive replacement)**

